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COMMENT OF THE DAY

An Open Race

GENERAL Eisenhower's decisive victory in the New Jersey primary unmistakably sends up his stock as the potential Republican nominee for the Presidential election, but his ultimate adoption is by no means conclusive. Senator Taft continues to hold an overall lead in the number of delegates pledged to support him at the national convention, and his vigorous campaigning can be expected to win him other adherents before General Eisenhower makes his personal appearance. In the final analysis the main concern of the Republicans may well be whether either Taft or Eisenhower can obtain a sufficient minority of support one over the other, for in the event of them being closely tied, the Convention may be confronted with the necessity of switching preferences to another candidate. The real election campaign, of course, has still to come, presenting General Eisenhower with the opportunity of casting the spell of his magnetic personality over the Republicans; and it is this influence which may well prove stronger than Senator Taft's known and proven political acumen.

ON the Democrats' side the question of a party nominee is even more up in the air. While Senator Kefauver is at the moment campaigning without official party support, the voluntary withdrawal from the lists of his most serious competitors automatically improves his prospects. It has been suggested that President Truman's withdrawal from the race helps the Democrats by making the party re-alignment easier. Yet none can mistake the significance of Governor Stevenson's announcement declining the opportunity of succeeding Truman as party candidate, and the absence of any other nominee of substance must enhance Senator Kefauver's prospects of eventual adoption. The feeling remains, however, that whoever the Democratic candidate, if his opponent for the Presidency is General Eisenhower, his chances of reaching the White House are fairly slim.

PLEADINGS IN SEDITION CASE CALLED "ABOMINABLE"

Criticism Expressed By Defence Counsel

Mr Percy Chen, leading Counsel for the publisher, printer and editor of the Ta Kung Pao who are arraigned before Mr Justice Williams and a special jury on a charge of sedition, this morning told the court that he had "never come across a more abominable set of pleadings" as those presented by the Crown in this case. He declared that they showed a "complete lack of experience," and he requested the Court to order Mr Hooten, who is conducting the prosecution, to put his pleadings into proper order.

Before the jury were called into Court, Mr Chen, replying to Mr Hooten, said that Mr Hooten's position was that the preliminaries up to trial were under section 73 of the Magistrates Ordinance. Mr Bernacchi, he said, had emphasised repeatedly and pointedly that section 73 was not a complete code and Mr Hooten had never replied in any shape or form to challenge that.

Referring to his Lordship's decision given yesterday, Mr Chen said that, with great respect to his Lordship, they still said his Lordship was wrong.

His Lordship: I may well be wrong, Mr Chen. There is a remedy for that.

After further submissions, Mr Chen said that Mr Hooten was now shifting his stand from section 73 of the Magistrates Ordinance to the Indictment Rules of Hongkong, but he had not put this in writing.

Mr Chen contended that Mr Hooten had given the defence vague allegations of offences committed which he (Mr Hooten) could twist and turn when he came to address the jury, to suit his own purpose.

Mr Chen asked his Lordship to order the Solicitor-General to frame his indictment or information in proper form or supplement it in writing and put it before Counsel for the Defence.

"The duty upon your Lordship is very great this morning," said Mr Chen. "This is not a matter to be shrugged at or to give a snap decision."

In a matter of seditious publication, said Mr Chen, where intention was the essence, Mr Hooten had not pleaded what was the intention. There were four intentions in the Statute, said Counsel, so

that there could be four interpretations by the defence. "I have never come across a more abominable set of pleadings which show a complete lack of experience," declared Mr Chen. "I therefore, ask the Court to order my learned friend to put his pleadings in proper order."

His Lordship then decided to delete the word "and" from "and/or" which appeared three times in the indictment remarking that he did not like the phrase.

Mr Chen said he objected to this to which his Lordship replied, "But you asked for the amendment."

Mr Chen said that the amendment had been made without Mr Hooten asking for the leave of the Court.

His Lordship said he would note the objection.

ADDRESS TO JURY

Mr Hooten explained to the jury that the defendants were before the Court because they were the responsible officials of a local daily newspaper, the Ta Kung Pao, and by law it was proved there was illegal matter in the paper they were prima facie responsible. It is alleged that on March 6 the issue of the Ta Kung Pao contained illegal matter, the subject of this charge.

Giving the legal approach to such matters, Mr Hooten said: "You will all appreciate that freedom of speech and of writing are very dear to us, wherever the British flag flies. A person is free to have his own religious and political beliefs, and it is no aim of the Prosecution to stop a man having any political beliefs he may have."

"This Prosecution is by no means aimed at Communism. You might have thought as a result of Mr Chen's questioning of you when you were called yesterday that this was a Prosecution in which there was a question of political face and Communism enters into the Prosecution. I assure you there is not. So long as a man keeps within the law he can be a Socialist, a Liberal or Communist or whatever he likes, and is entitled to express his political views provided he does so in a fair, reasonable and moderate way. Even strong language does not render it illegal."

"A man is entitled to complain of his neighbour or the Government and even strong criticism of the Government is permitted because he might be acting to the public good in bringing attention to a grievance or abuse which might bring about redress. It is a good thing so long as the criticism is candid and fair and the person criticising the actions of Government does so frankly without attributing a malicious motive to the Government or its officials."

Reading Section 8 of the Sedition Ordinance of Hong-

long, Mr Hooten said that that principle was set out there. He said that the law protected freedom of language, speech and writing but as with all freedom it also looks care that these freedoms were not abused and in particular the law forbade writings and speeches likely to cause breaches of the peace and to promote insurrections, or promote in the minds of the people discontent or disaffection against the local Government. This was because it could not be for the good of a government to allow any writings or speeches which led to a possible state of disorder and the possible suffering of the inhabitants, and the law therefore made it a criminal offence to publish such writings and which were termed "seditious publications."

After he had explained the meaning of "seditious intention," Mr Hooten said that the jury would see various passages of the article in the charge had quite clearly a seditious intent. "It is the contention of the Crown that there can scarcely be a more seditious publication as a whole than this one."

ALLEGATION

Mr Hooten went through the article, making comments now and then on various passages. He said: "There is an allegation that the British authorities, which means the Government, has committed unlawful and outrageous acts of persecution against the Chinese population of this Colony. It is difficult to conceive of a more serious seditious passage in any article than that. To say that the British authorities committed acts of persecution against the Chinese population whom they have under their care and protection in the Colony must, to the minds of any person reading the article, and giving it credence, bring the Government into hatred and contempt and must raise discord and disaffection in the minds of those inhabitants."

Mr Hooten reminded the jury of the meaning of "persecution" in history such as that of the Huguenots and the Jews under Hitler. He said, "That is alleged what is being done by the British Government to the Chinese population in this Colony."

"This paper is telling its readers that the Government of Hongkong unlawfully causes the arrest of people and unlawfully expels them without cause, that the Government is acting arbitrarily and not by law."

"I ask you to consider what might well be the minds of persons reading that article. It says that on March 1 the British Government got together large forces of soldiers and Police with the express, premeditated, and systematic purpose of massacring the Chinese inhabitants of the Colony. I submit there can be no greater seditious publication than that."

(Contd on back page, Col. 5)

Wins Truman's Approval



President Truman today warmly approved the candidacy of Mr W. Averell Harriman, Mutual Security Director, for the Presidency of the United States.

Mr Harriman has been mentioned as a possible Democratic choice of candidate.

President Truman was asked at his weekly press conference what he thought about the qualifications of Mr Harriman for the Presidency.

President Truman said he thought Mr Harriman was well qualified for the post. He was one of the most patriotic citizens in the country and an able one.—Reuter.

Taipei Treaty Talks Again Deadlocked

Taipei, Apr. 18.

The Tokyo decisions which, for the second time, nullified the tentative agreements reached here between the Chinese and Japanese peace delegations plunged the ill-fated peace conference into another deadlock last night and aroused a wave of indignation in Nationalist circles.

Japanese government instructions, received last night by the Japanese delegation, rejected the Chinese version of the draft treaty. Tokyo insists the treaty is applicable only to territories now or in future under Nationalist control.

The Japanese government told the delegation to accept in principle the Nationalist taking-over of property of the puppet regimes set up by the Japanese since September 1931, but said the working clause should be changed. On the strength of the instructions, the Japanese would ask more talks with the Nationalists.

The Foreign Minister, Mr George Yeh, who is already under fire for being "too weak" in his dealings with Japan, told the United Press: "If Tokyo should reject the tentative agreements, that would be fatal."

However, it was generally considered likely that Taipei would keep the conference door open although it is adamant in demanding Japanese acceptance of the treaty.—United Press.

They Found It Great Fun

Rome, Apr. 17.

Two Dutch girls arrived here tonight after a 6,000-mile trip which they began in Amsterdam 34 months ago.

Robby van der Wal, 27-year-old, and Jos de Lange, 29-year-old, left Amsterdam with a guitar, two untrained voices, a tent, two shoulder packs and no money.

Since then they have earned their way through a dozen countries, singing and playing on the radio, on the stage, in restaurants, at private parties, and to anyone who looked like providing a meal.

Jos said, "It is great fun and we mean to just keep going."

Reuter.

UNITED STATES FLOOD DISASTER

Dramatic Fight To Save Dykes

Omaha, Nebraska, Apr. 17.

Emergency flood control teams today rushed up and down the 21 miles of dykes holding back the rising Missouri River here, plugging weak places with tons of sandbags and rocks to prevent a serious break-through.

Army barges loaded with rocks waited at key places along the dykes for a call to dump their loads into a major breach.

Behind the main wall engineers and labourers cordoned off small breaches with new sandbag "loops."

Eden Talks On Future Of Germany

London, Apr. 17.

The Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden, today discussed separately with the French and United States Ambassadors the latest Soviet note on a future settlement with Germany.

Meetings With Two Ambassadors

Mr Eden lunched with M. Rene Massigli at the French Embassy and later in the afternoon Mr Walter Clifford, the United States Ambassador, called at the Foreign Office.

In diplomatic quarters here it was believed that the three Western Powers hope to begin formal consultations on their reply to the Soviet note next week.

The two Ambassadors and Mr Eden were understood to have discussed when and where to hold the consultations. A decision on this question is expected before the end of this week.

The Soviet note handed to the Western Powers in Moscow last week proposed that the four Occupying Powers in Germany should establish a four-Power Commission to investigate conditions for holding elections in all the four zones.

The Soviet note was in reply to an earlier Western note.

Mr Clifford, who returned from a 10 days' holiday in France last night, was understood to have also discussed with Mr Eden the current London talks on the administration of Western Zone A of Trieste and the Egyptian situation.

In diplomatic quarters here it was thought likely that Mr Eden and M. Massigli also discussed the recent Spanish memorandum asking that an international conference be called to define a settlement for the International Zone of Tangier.

(In 1945 it was agreed by Britain, France and the United States and the Soviet Union that the French Government should be responsible for convening an international conference on a final settlement for the Zone).—Reuter.

Wants Truman Impeached

Boston, Apr. 17.

Senator Robert Taft said today that Congress should consider the impeachment of President Truman for his seizure of the steel industry.

The Republican presidential aspirant told a press conference: "I think seizure of steel is a valid case for impeachment. It is valid for presentation to the House certainly."

He and three other Senators were supporting a resolution directing a Senate committee to study the President's legal right to make the seizure.

(President Truman ordered the government seizure of the \$9,000 million steel industry on April 8 to prevent a nation-wide strike after the failure of the wage negotiations).—Reuter.

Earth Tremors Shake Villages In England

Matlock, Derbyshire, Apr. 17.

An earth tremor—the seventh in six weeks—shook the village of Winstanley, near Matlock, last night.

Two other villages also felt the shock.

The tremor was preceded by rumbling from underground.

Geologists who have been investigating the tremors for the past month believe they are caused by subsidences in old Roman lead mines or by geological fault.—Reuter.

Entire City Threatened By Blaze

Tottori, Apr. 18.

Japan's biggest postwar fire, a wind-whipped blaze that has left at least 15,000 persons homeless, raged out of control early today (Friday) and threatened the destruction of the entire coastal city of Tottori.

The national police said 140 persons were injured and 4,500 homes destroyed in Tottori, a city of 80,000 residents, 300 miles southwest of Tokyo. There are no United States military installations here.

The police arrested three workers suspected of being responsible for the blaze. It was reported that an overhauled motor they were using to make sawdust started the fire late Thursday afternoon.

Three hundred reserve police from nearby Yamaguchi City joined local firemen and residents in battling the fire. Buildings wiped out included National Police Headquarters, telephone exchange, telegraph office and several banks and newspaper offices. The Red Cross hospital was in danger.—United Press.

And The Pianist Played On

Los Angeles, Apr. 17.

Three bandits made a pianist play "Whispering" (a popular dance tune) over and over again at gunpoint today while they robbed the till and customers in a bar.

One man pushed his gun into the musician's ribs and said: "That's pretty. Keep playing it until this is over."

For his co-operation they left the pianist's wallet untouched.—Reuter.

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FOR THE HOME FOR THE OFFICE

Cool the Air, Circulate the Air, Dehumidifies, Shuts Out Dirt and Noise, Filters the Air, May Even Heat. Plus EXTRA YEAR 'ROUND BENEFITS.

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KING'S MAJESTIC

SHOWING TO-DAY
At 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.
THE EIGHTH DAY

It's the Call to Adventure!

GARY COOPER

AS CAPTAIN WATT
GEMINOLE FIGHTER
Distant Drums

Actually filmed in Florida's Everglades Jungle! **Technicolor**

SUNDAY MORNING SHOW
AT 11.30 A.M. AT THE KING'S
Columbia Films Presents
"A VARIETY PROGRAMME"
3 Stages Comedy-Color Cartoons
AT REDUCED PRICE

LEE Theatre

★ FINAL TO-DAY ★
AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

Unequaled As A Story Of Youth!

CLIFF TAYLOR WINTERS
"GEORGE STEVENS" Production of
A PLACE IN THE SUN
with BETTE DRESSER - Produced and Directed by GEORGE STEVENS
by THEODORE DRESER and the PATRICK KELLY play adapted from the novel

★ NEXT CHANGE ★

LINDA DARNELL
STEPHEN MCNALLY
GIGI PERREAU
The Lady Pays Off
with Virginia FIELD - A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

ROXY & BROADWAY

Final Showing To-day At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!
At the ROXY Only - At All Performances To-day
The Hsin Hwa Chorus Girls will be on the stage
to sing the theme song of the picture.

州九照彎彎兒月
MISS NANCY CHAN
in

THE GODDESS
AND
THE DEVIL
A Chinese Picture in Mandarin Dialogue
★ COMMENCING TO-MORROW ★
Tyrone POWER
in
"CRASH DIVE"
IN TECHNICOLOR
with
Anno PAXTER and Dana ANDREWS
A 20th Century-Fox Special
BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

Smile Awhile
If Sad Adieu



A notorious gangster, Ibrahim Joseph Attia, serving a term at Friesen Prison, was brought from his cell specially for his wedding and is seen leaving with his bride after the ceremony. He was taken back to prison immediately afterwards. (Express photo)

'Disaster' Airfield Still Under Rigid Restrictions

New York, Apr. 17.

A slicker of life showed today at Newark Airport. But the pulse was faint.
Commercial aviation industry interests and Northern New Jersey business leaders are trying to revive the patient.irate householders and officials of Elizabeth, New Jersey, are determined to keep it dead.

SHARP ATTACK ON TRUMAN

Washington, Apr. 17.

Mr. James F. Byrnes, former Secretary of State, today accused President Truman of spreading falsehoods about him and of substituting "fiction for history" in describing American relations with Russia since the war.
The recent book "Mr. President" contained a letter which depicted Mr. Truman as demanding a tough policy toward the Russians from Mr. Byrnes, and insisting that Mr. Byrnes let him make the foreign policy.
Today, Mr. Byrnes, now Governor of South Carolina, replied to Mr. Truman in an article in Colliers Magazine. He denied that the letter had ever been sent to him and added:
"The evidence is impressive that the document was written by the President and formally signed by him to record himself favourably."
Mr. Byrnes noted that the book "Mr. President" said the President sometimes wrote letters he never sent.
In addition to the magazine article, Mr. Byrnes also published today a medical report and three letters from Mr. Truman which, he said, proved he had resigned as Secretary of State because of a "heart condition" and not because of any quarrel with the President.—Reuter.

The big field has been opened for limited military use. But there is still no commerce at the airport which little more than two months ago was the greatest single air-freight terminal in the world.

One of the three main airfields serving the New York metropolitan area, it was closed in February shortly after the third passenger plane in two months had crashed into the residential area of Elizabeth.

The Port of New York Authority opened the airport to military use on Monday. Flights are restricted to good weather and the planes are ordered to use runways away from congested communities.

The first good weather was on Wednesday, and the first plane since the last air-crash disaster, landed at 11.22 a.m.

A few minutes after a meeting of the Newark Chamber of Commerce was told that a survey which the Chamber had conducted of 3,500 business firms indicated that 95 per cent of North New Jersey business wants the airport re-opened. The Chamber passed a resolution favouring the re-opening of the airport under the "emergency formula" proposed by Captain Edward V. Rickenbacker, head of the National Air Transport Co-ordinating Committee.

The plan would restrict operations to runways avoiding residential areas. Allowing the airport to operate at about one half of its normal capacity, the plan would stay in effect until the completion of a new main runway designed to eliminate 80 to 94 per cent of all flights over Elizabeth and Newark.—United Press.

Direction of labour

ITS IN THE BISCUIT TIN MARKED RICE!

Stevenson Withdrawal Puts Party In Dilemma

New York, Apr. 17.

The withdrawal of the Governor of Illinois, Mr. Adlai Stevenson, from the presidential race has precipitated a welter of conflicting opinions about the man on whom the Democrats would now pin their hopes.

There is no doubt that the Party chieftains had been grooming Mr Stevenson as heir apparent to President Truman. Also, those knowing him well say that for both political and personal reasons his decision is irrevocable.

That leaves three candidates as possibilities. They are:

1.—Mr W. Averell Harriman, Mutual Security Director, whose chances can be better assessed after tonight's dinner of the Democrats of New York State.

If he says the word (and there is no indication that he would refuse the nomination) and if the powerful New York "bosses" of the Party give the signal, there is nothing to prevent a tremendous surge of organisation and popular support for Mr Harriman.

2.—Senator Estes Kefauver, opposed by the Democratic Party heads because his Senate Investigating Committee undermined his own Party's standing in the country. His individual campaign in the primaries has gone well but the value of the public support can be exaggerated since he has been the only candidate in most Democratic primary ballots.

3.—Senator Richard Russell, who will probably monopolise the southern delegates' votes at the national nominating convention in July. But southern votes are not enough to win nomination. Unless unforeseeable influences come to work the Russell bid seems likely to fail.

In New York, where each Party elects 86 delegates to the national conventions, the Republicans are likely to elect the bulk, if not all, of their delegates for General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The Governor of New York, Mr Thomas Dewey, is titular head of his State's Republicans. He has declared forthright support for the General and what he says generally goes.

New York Democrats are expected to choose Mr Harriman as their "favourite son". But the delegation is tightly controlled

and at the convention would switch their votes if the word was given.

BOSSES REALLY BOSS

In Pennsylvania 70 delegates are elected by each Party. In New York, they are not committed to any candidate but what the Party "bosses" decide is the ruling factor. Pennsylvania is one of the States where the "bosses really boss".

Twenty-two States and three territories (Puerto Rico, Alaska, the Virgin Islands) have so far chosen their delegates to the respective Party conventions which nominate the presidential candidates both to be held in Chicago in July.

Reliable estimates of delegates committed to vote for certain candidates gave this score:

REPUBLICANS	
Senator Robert Taft	204
General Eisenhower	123
Mr Harold Stassen	22
Mr Earl Warren	6
Uncommitted	68
Total	423
DEMOCRATS	
Senator Estes Kefauver	41
Senator Hubert Humphrey	25
Senator Richard Russell	17
Senator Robert Kerr	8
President Truman	6
Mr Adlai Stevenson	4
Others	4
Uncommitted	123
Total	226

—Reuter.

Need For Fleet Of "Atom Bombers" Insisted On

London, Apr. 17.

Air-Chief Marshal Sir Guy Garrod said here today that the Royal Air Force should have at least 250 jet-propelled long range "atom bombers"—the "atom bombers"—in the front line as a minimum for her own air security.

Some people thought that the Americans should operate the heavy bombers and that Britain should be content to defend herself with fighters, he added.

This was a very important problem and in some ways a dangerous one.
"It is dangerous to depend upon your friend and ally for something which is essential for your own security," he told a lunch of the Royal Air Force Reserve Club.

"I fail to see how we can leave it to anybody else to provide the long range bombers which we need for our own defence."
Marshal Garrod said also that Britain ought to be doing far more to build a merchant air service in order to get the sort of backing for the Royal Air Force which the Merchant Navy gives to the Royal Navy.—Reuter.

A Flighty Miss

London, Apr. 17.

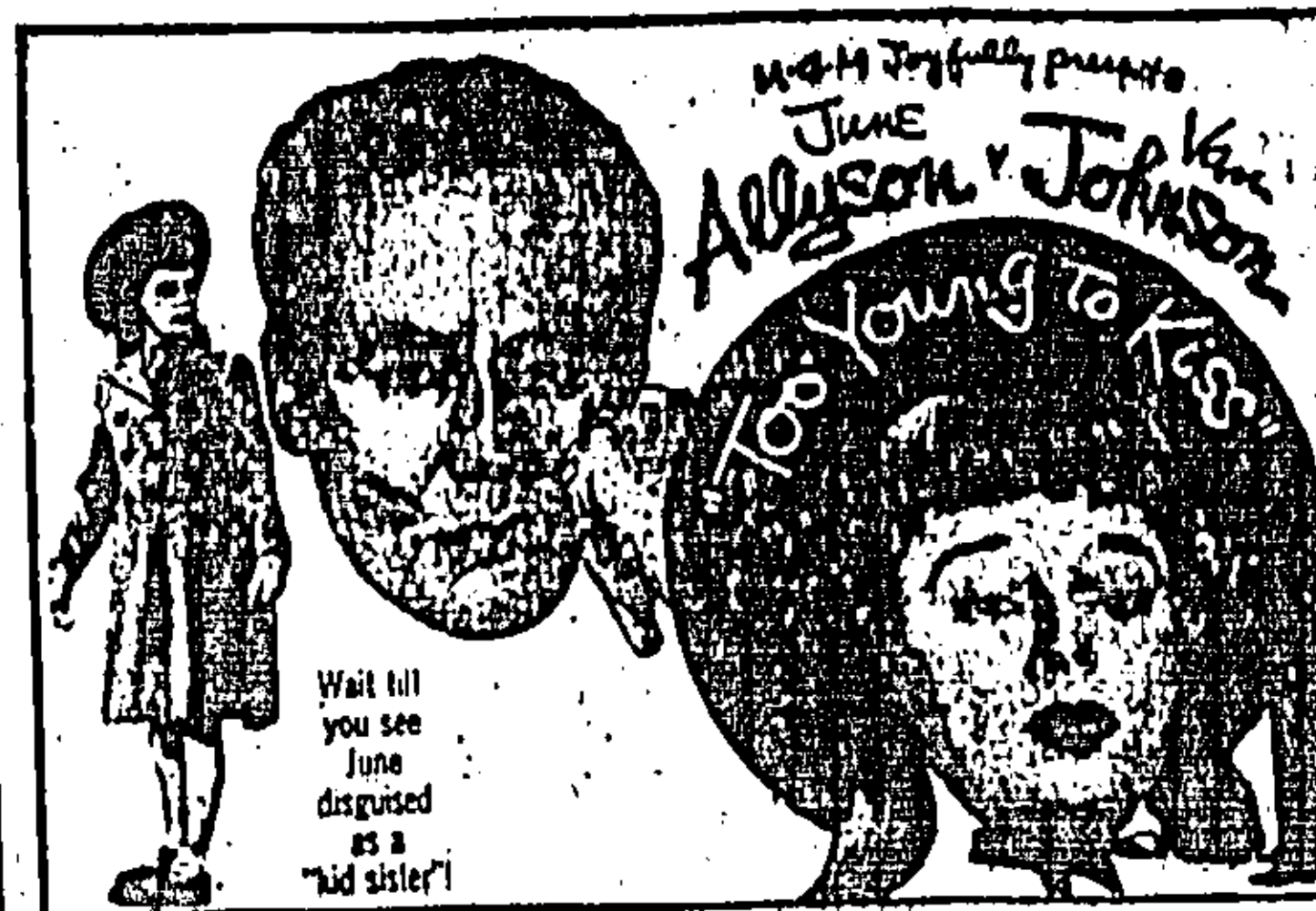
After only eight hours' instruction, a 20-year-old Women's Royal Air Force mechanic has flown solo at Great Heath airport. She is Eleanor Taylor, of Norton-on-Tees, County Durham.—Reuter.

SHOWING

TO-DAY

QUEEN'S ALHAMBRA

AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

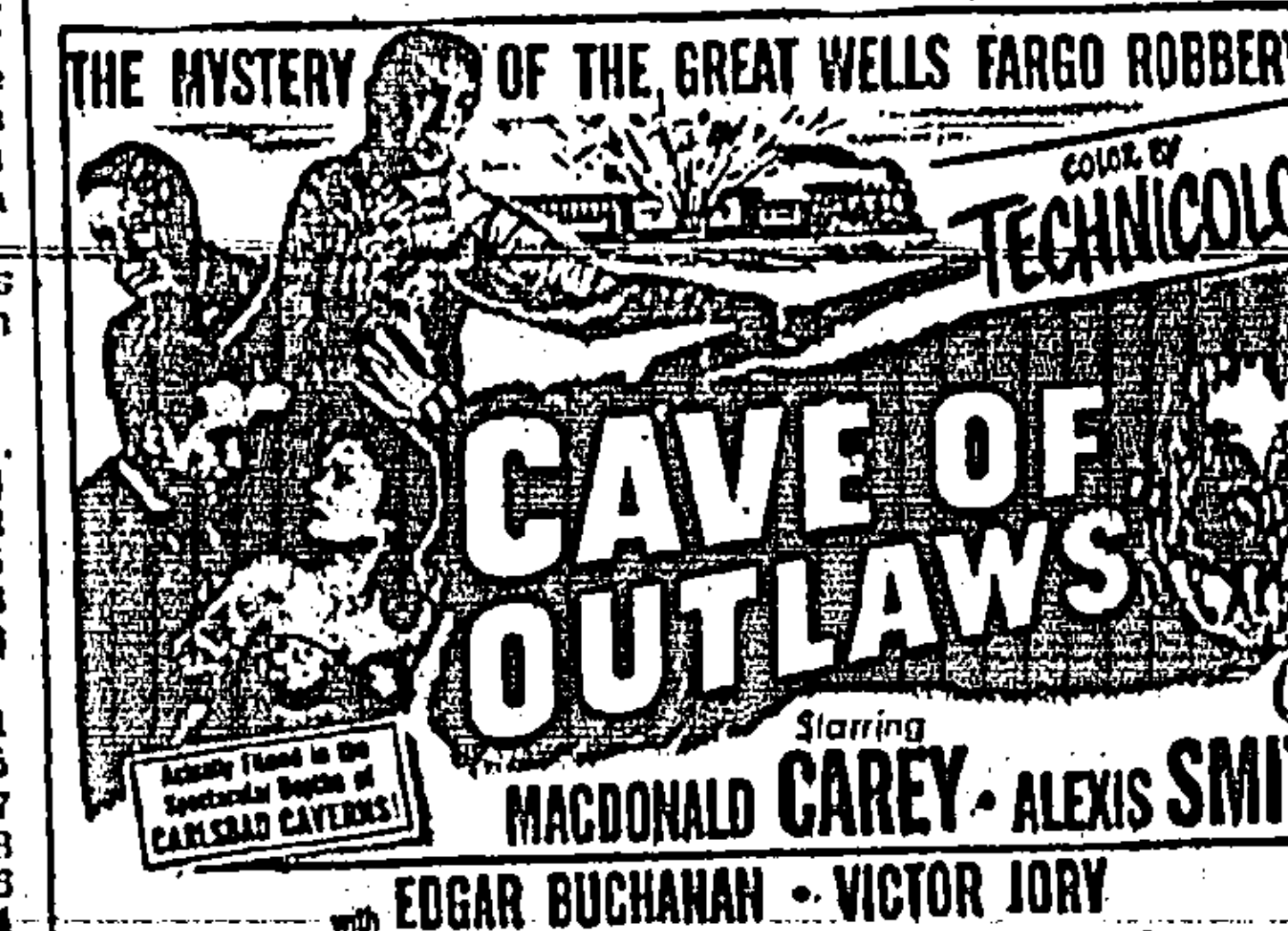


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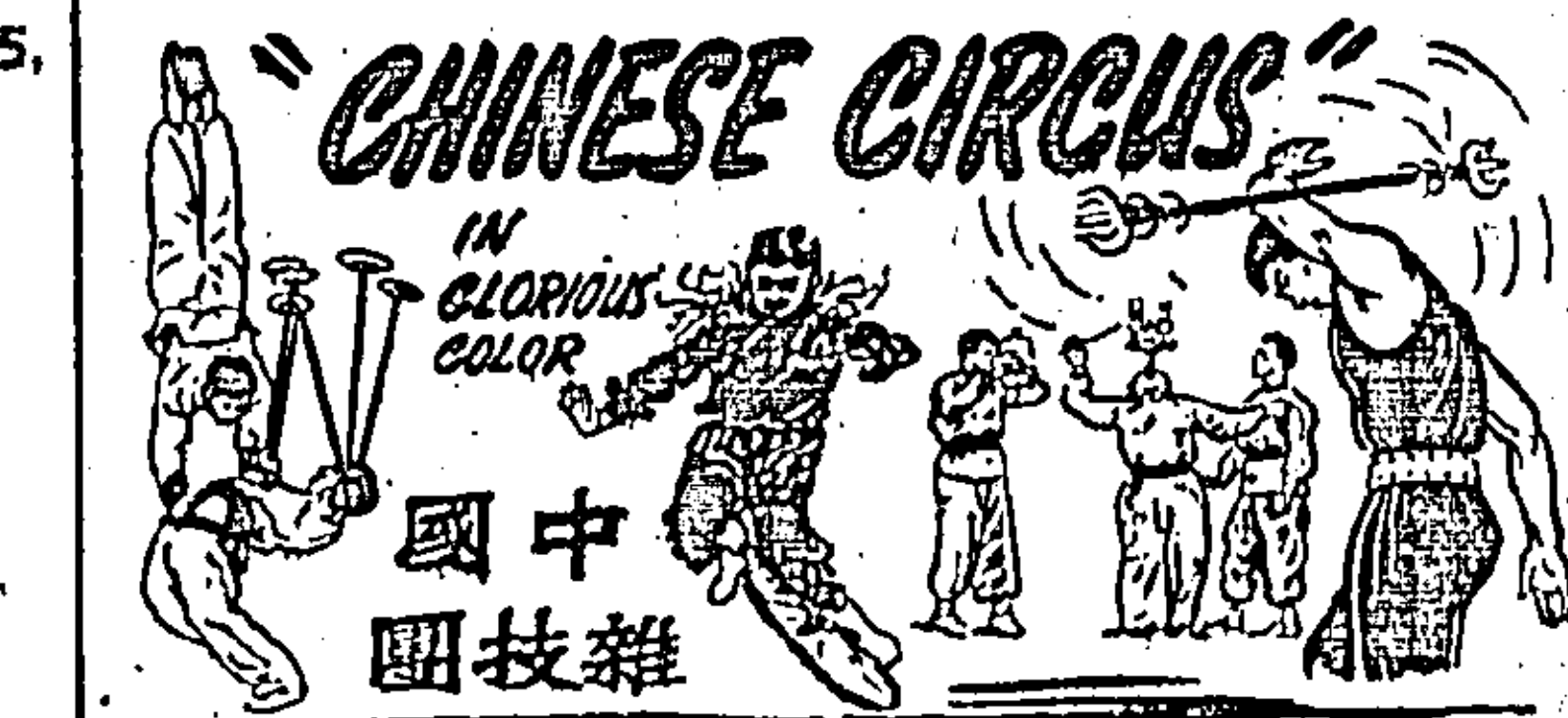
SHOWING

TO-DAY

Cathay

AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

★ THE DOCUMENTARY FILM IN GLORIOUS COLOR ★
THROUGH THE SKILFUL TECHNIQUES OF THE ACTORS
IN THIS FILM, THE WISDOM, BRAVERY, HARDINESS &
FIRMNESS OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE CAN BE SEEN!

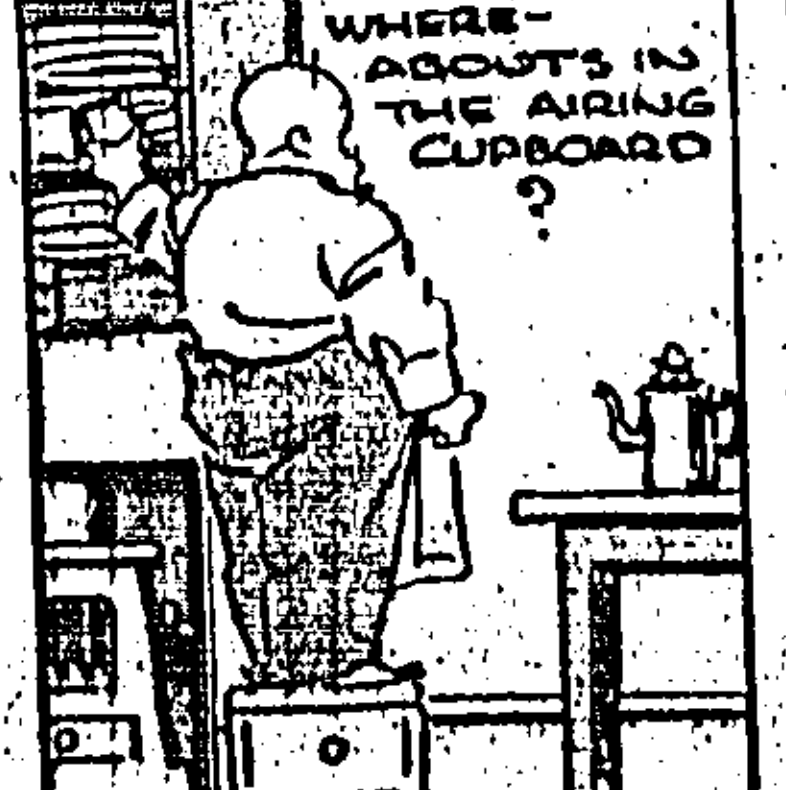


★ ★ ★ HONGKONG ★ ★ ★
BANDS
VOCALISTS
FLOOR SHOWS
ALL in one
BIG SHOW
THE HONGKONG MUSICIANS UNION
AT SKYROOM
SUN. APRIL 27th 1952
2-7 P.M.

And so it came to pass that David, the Lion of Judah, looked upon Bathsheba, and for her, he broke God's oath commandment!

DAVID AND BATHSHEBA
TECHNICOLOR
GREGORY SUSAN
PECK HAYWARD
RAYMOND MASSEY KATHARINE MURPHY
DANIEL F. ZARUCK HENRY KING
David battles Goliath—history's most famous combat is on the screen!
Complimentary tickets are not valid for this picture.

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Save Your Eyes
In a state of eye strain there is no safer nor more sure remedy than correctly fitted glasses. We have had 40 years experience in Hongkong, testing eyesight.
CHINESE OPTICAL CO.
111, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

WAR WITH PROFITEERS

French Premier's Campaign For Price Cuts

Inflation Coming Under Control

Canberra, Apr. 17. The Australian Premier, Mr. Robert Menzies, said today that Australian inflation was coming under control as a result of an improving internal price structure.

"The major problem now is to retain the pressure against inflation and to deal with balance of payments problem."

The Government's dilemma is that it has helped to overcome local shortages and reduce prices but, while export income is still low, there is no hope of any easing of Australian import restrictions, he said.

He expected that wool prices would remain around current rates next year. —France-Press.

Strong Challenge To 'Provocateurs'

Paris, Apr. 17. The French Premier, M. Antoine Pinay, before returning from the Riviera to Paris today to resume his battle to bring down consumer prices, said, "I am Mr Customer and I have 43,000,000 French people behind me."

In an interview with a press correspondent, M. Pinay said that he intended to call before him in batches 50 representatives of every industry and retail concern in France and get them to co-operate in reducing their prices to the public.

"The price reducing campaign is barely started," the Premier said.

M. Pinay said, "Raw materials prices have come down everywhere. This deflation must

result in a benefit for consumers. I am personally going to see manufacturers, wholesalers, middle-men—all so that prices come down in all sections."

M. Pinay was stern to French businessmen who said, "I prefer to sell a little at a big profit than a lot at a small profit—it is less trouble."

M. Pinay said, "Such talk is veritable nonsense, a provocation to catastrophe."

He added, "Pure profit capitalism is condemned in France as it is in America. Increased production must benefit the consumer. When an industrialist reduces his costs by 10 per cent this must not become a supplementary profit but must be translated into a 10 per cent price reduction. The number of his customers will then increase."

M. Pinay said that he had personal knowledge of producers, wholesalers and shopkeepers who were making "scandalous profits." —Reuter.

Crucial Paris Talks Seeking End To Tunisia Crisis

Paris, Apr. 17. M. Jean de Hautecloque, French Resident-General in Tunisia, arrived here today to discuss with the French Government the next steps to solve the Tunisian crisis.

M. Hautecloque, who will be staying here until Tuesday, today discussed with the Deputy Foreign Minister, M. Maurice Schuman, establishment of the Franco-Tunisian Commission which will prepare reforms giving the Tunisians greater self-government.

The Resident-General also gave M. Schuman a personal report on events in Tunisia since the Nationalist Chetki Government was deposed.

The Franco-Tunisian reform Commission was scheduled to meet in April 24 but M. Hautecloque told reporters today that at the request of the Tunisian Premier, M. Baccouche, the first meeting had been postponed.

Informed quarters said that M. Baccouche has difficulties in finding representative Tunisians willing to serve on the Commission after the Neo-Destour Nationalist Party had rejected any co-operation.

The French Government hoped, however, that the Commission would meet in the first half of May.

Informed quarters here said that Aix En Provence, in Southern France, was the most likely town where the Commission would meet.

The French Government, it was understood, was anxious that the talks should be held in the neutral atmosphere of a provincial town.

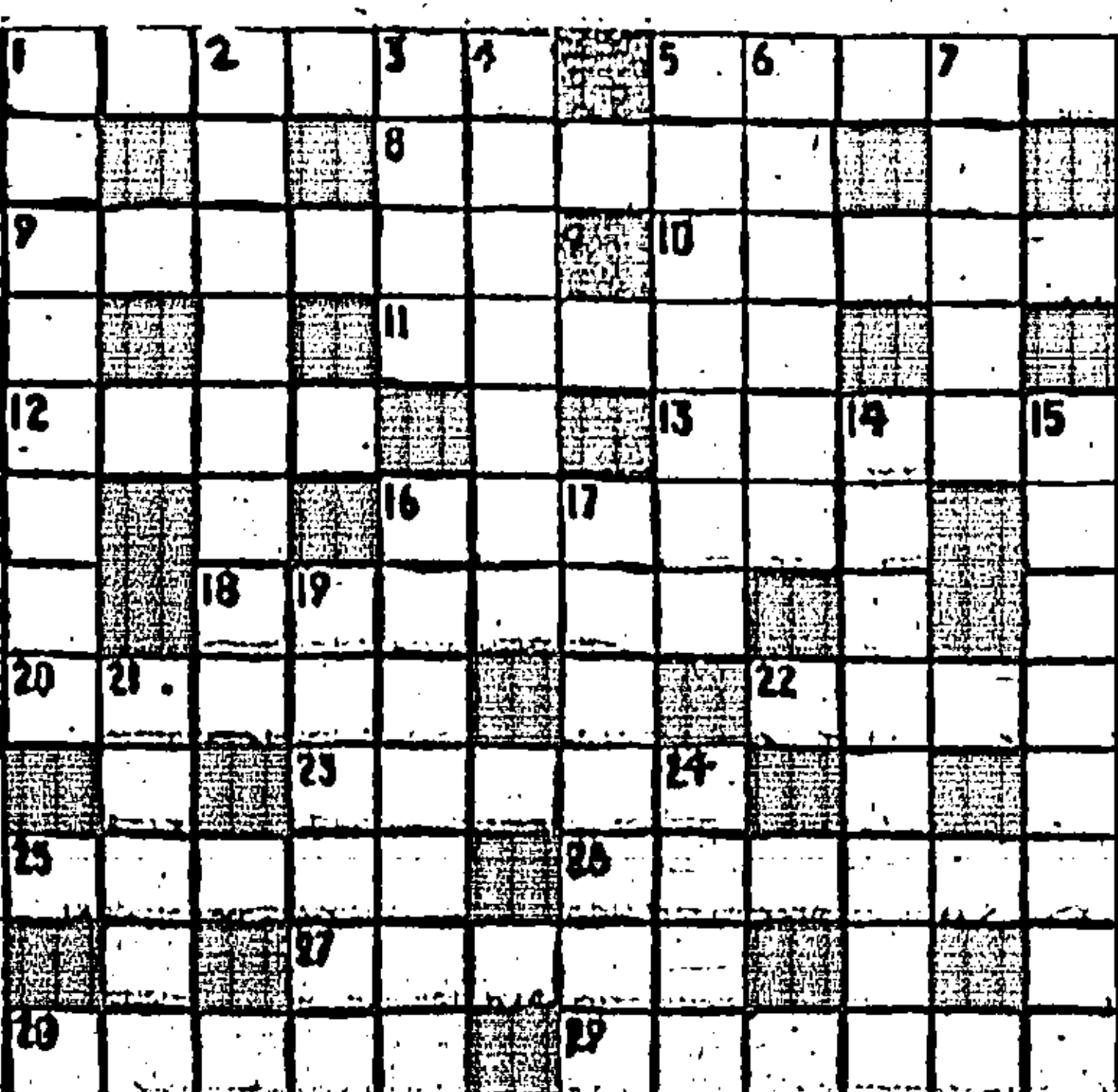
The French members of the Commission will probably be mainly high civil servants and legal experts. Ex-Premier Edgar Faure has been mentioned as a possible leader of the French delegation but there has been no indication so far that he would be willing to accept this post. —Reuter.

Canada Ratifies

Ottawa, Apr. 17. Canadian documents ratifying the Japanese peace treaty were deposited today with the United States Government formally ending Canada's state of war with Japan.

The treaty was ratified by Parliament earlier this month. —Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- Normal practice (6)
 - Allude (5)
 - Beat off (5)
 - Cowardly (6)
 - Musical work (6)
 - Hesitate (5)
 - Shirking (4)
 - Hypocrite (5)
 - Loath (6)
 - Indian (6)
 - Birds (5)
 - Coherent body of matter (4)
 - Buckets (5)
 - Musical note (5)
 - Merited (6)
 - Educated (6)
 - Direct (5)
 - Hues (6)

- DOWN**
- Sound made by 20 Across (8)
 - Marine view (8)
 - Metal-bearing minerals (4)
 - Threatens (7)
 - Sports official (7)
 - Gets away from (6)
 - Triumph (5)
 - Taut (6)
 - Goes down (8)
 - Unpractical person (7)
 - Bank clerks (7)
 - Arm high (6)
 - Oust (5)
 - Girdle (4)

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1 Repair, 5 Forms, 8 Cell, 9 Exiles, 11 Eager, 12 Reduce, 14 Cast, 16 Event, 18 Realm, 19 Odes, 20 Grange, 24 Thong, 25 Needle, 26 Lugs, 27 Dirge, 28 Eaten, Down: 1 Rules, 2 Pair, 3 Iced, 4 Result, 5 Fleeced, 6 Rhymes, 7 Strails, 10 Legal, 13 Granted, 14 Candour, 15 Smuggle, 17 Verge, 19 Grange, 21 Ness, 23 Edge, 25 Teen.

George Robey To Play Tony Weller

London, Apr. 17. Eighty-three year-old George Robey is to play Tony Weller in the British film Pickwick Papers to be made at Walton-on-Thames.

James Hayter will play Pickwick. —Reuter.

Family Re-Union Over The Air

London, Apr. 17. An ocean-spanning radio link-up between Radio Malaya and the British Broadcasting Corporation in London yesterday reunited a British mother and her four sons in Malaya.

Mrs. Alice Price, a small, happy, grey-haired mother of Bob, John, Hugh and Bill Price, made a lightning journey from her home in Cambridge to a London studio to talk to her Malayan exiled sons. 8,500 miles away.

"Friends and relations" the British Broadcasting Corporation's programme in which Mrs. Price and her sons took part, will be broadcast next Monday.

Yesterday's recorded programme starring the Price family was the third of a series of six programmes in which the B.B.C. link up friends and relations at home and abroad.

A proud and smiling Alice Price, celebrating the most exciting birthday in her lifetime, squared bravely up to the microphone.

"Jolly good luck to you all," she said delightedly. "It is wonderful to talk to you."

From the Singapore studio of Radio Malaya, she heard the voices of her son John, a planter who had travelled from Johore, and Bob, who works in a Singapore bank. Hugh in Penang and Bill in Kedah sent greetings through their brothers. —Reuter.

Token Gaol Sentences

Rome, Apr. 17. A Rome court imposed light sentences, automatically wiped out by amnesties, on eight Jews charged with having blown up the British Embassy here in November, 1946.

None of the accused appeared, and it was stated that they were living in Israel.

Five, arrested after the explosion which totally wrecked the Embassy, escaped from Italy as soon as they were released on bail.

Immediately after the explosion leaflets distributed here claimed the wrecking was done by the Argun Zawal Beumal organisation. —Reuter.

Graziani At Monte Cassino



The former Marshal Graziani leaves the rebuilt Monte Cassino Abbey after a visit there to pay tribute to the dead of the last war. He was given a great reception by workers engaged in reconstruction work. (Express photo).

Just A Tempest In A Teapot

Washington, Apr. 17. General Hoyt Vandenberg, United States Air Force Chief of Staff, said today that the so-called "Stay Down" strike of American fliers was a "tempest in a teapot."

He told reporters that the publicity given to charges brought against a small number of airmen who would not fly "is not indicative of anything as great as seems to appear on the surface."

He did not believe that the trouble would continue because the Air Force stopped recalling reservists involuntarily five months ago.

One Air Force Reserve pilot who refused to fly because of his wife's health, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment and dismissed the service by a court martial at El Paso, Texas, yesterday.

Disobedience charges are pending against a dozen other Air Force officers who refused to fly at Randolph Field, San Antonio, Texas, and at Mather Base in California.

Eight Air Force Reserve officers at Randolph Field have been held a Congressional investigation of the base, which they said was seething with discontent and with the entire Air Force Reserve programme.

General Vandenberg, appearing before a Senate Armed Services Sub-Committee yesterday, urged Congress to pass legislation providing higher hazard pay for fliers as a greater incentive to keep them in the air. —Reuter.

Korean Armistice Not Expected To End Tension

U.S. Official's Warning

New York, Apr. 17. The U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. John Allison, warned tonight that the free world would continue to face serious troubles in the Far East even if there were a truce in Korea.

The Allies did not dare to relax their vigilance because of the threat of Communist aggression in Indo-China and Formosa would not evaporate with a Korean cease fire.

In an address prepared for the Fourteenth Annual Public Affairs Conference at Principia College, Mr. Allison said that the Red negotiators were still "stalling and befogging the issues" in the Korean truce talks.

But, he said, the Allies continue to hope for an armistice because if the talks failed "we will be confronted with a most serious situation."

"We shall continue to do our part to make the talks a success. If they fail it will be because the Communists do not want them to succeed."

Mr. Allison lashed out at critics who have charged that the Korean War has been "useless."

He said that intervention by the United Nations had achieved many things—throwing back the aggressors—"beyond the point from which they started," destroying more than a million trained Communist soldiers and proving that the United Nations could be effective in meeting aggressors.

Mr. Allison made four points:—

- 1.—The Reds believed that control of Korea would make it easier to dominate Japan.
- 2.—There had been "real progress" in building the strength and stability of the Far East, including easing of the crisis in Korea and Indo-China, the reduction of Communist-Jed Huk bands in the Philippines and the development of defence pacts with Japan, the Philippines, Australia and New Zealand.

3.—The Red's "real progress" in building the strength and stability of the Far East, including easing of the crisis in Korea and Indo-China, the reduction of Communist-Jed Huk bands in the Philippines and the development of defence pacts with Japan, the Philippines, Australia and New Zealand.

4.—General Gruenther, himself mentioned as a possible successor to the Supreme Command of North Atlantic Treaty Organization forces, added:

"It is to be that way I am a fardier and I will be delighted to do everything that the Army Department asks me to do."

General Gruenther flew here from Paris today for a speaking tour.

A report in the San Francisco Chronicle had said that General Ridgway, Supreme Commander of the United Nations Forces in the Far East, had been recommended by the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff for the European job, which General Eisenhower will give up on June 1.

It had already been reported that the Chief of the U.S. Army Field Forces, General Mark Clark, might succeed General Ridgway in the Far East and that General Gruenther might take General Clark's post.

General Gruenther is believed to be Eisenhower's personal choice to succeed him in Europe. —Reuter.

Eisenhower Successor Speculation

Washington, Apr. 17. General Alfred M. Gruenther, Deputy to General Eisenhower, said in reply to reporters today that he had not heard anything about reports that General Matthew B. Ridgway would take over the European Command.

General Gruenther, himself mentioned as a possible successor to the Supreme Command of North Atlantic Treaty Organization forces, added:

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General Gruenther is believed to be Eisenhower's personal choice to succeed him in Europe. —Reuter.

Murphy To Move Quickly

Washington, Apr. 17. A State Department spokesman said today that if his nomination was approved, Mr. Robert Murphy would take up his post as Ambassador to Japan by the time the Japanese peace treaty came into force on April 28.

The appointment has been approved by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and is awaiting action by the Senate. —Reuter.

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GERM WARFARE: THE BIRTH OF A MYTH

By W. N. Ewer

Sometime Senior Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, W. N. Ewer is the Diplomatic Correspondent of the London Daily Herald and has attended for that newspaper every important international conference since World War I. He is well known not only as a writer on world affairs, but also as a broadcaster.

FOR a month past every Communist propaganda instrument all over the world has been concentrating on one subject—the alleged use of "bacteriological weapons" by the United States Air Force in Korea.

It is a cleverly chosen theme. The allegations are made and repeated, though no evidence is produced to support them, except further repeated allegations. Denials are ridiculed. And actual disproof is carefully made impossible.

To prove a negative is always difficult. In this case proof that American aeroplanes have not been dropping plague-infected mice and insects in North Korea and in Manchuria could only be provided by teams of qualified and impartial observers on the spot. And this, though the International Red Cross is willing to send observers, and the United States Government is prepared to accept their verdict, the Chinese and North Korean Governments will not allow.

SUSPICION

THAT in itself suggests to any objective mind that the charges must probably be false. "Evidence" which declines examination is necessarily suspect.

That suspicion is deepened by the speed and intensity of the propaganda campaign. The first charge that the United States planes were dropping infected insects was on February 21. It was at once repeated by Moscow radio. And within a few days it had become the subject of a world-wide campaign. There were all the indications of previous preparation. Lucid details were at once forthcoming. Aeroplanes "had been dropping containers with infected fleas, lice, flies, spiders, crickets, mites and mice". The Chinese Government was rushing men and supplies to the attacked area to combat an appalling peril. There were all the signs of a well rehearsed drama.

What had inspired its authors? The natural and immediate suspicion—which may well be correct—is that there had been serious and of cholera in Manchuria and North Korea; and that a government, unwilling to admit the inadequacy of its own sanitary services, had at once decided to blame "the American imperialists".

SIGNIFICANT

THIS is normal in Communist countries. Industrial deficiencies are at once attributed to "sabotage by imperialist agents". Swarms of Colorado beetles in East European potato fields in 1951 were at once declared to have been scattered by American aeroplanes.

In the spring of 1951 there were epidemics of typhus and smallpox. They, too, were charged to the Americans. If, on this occasion, the charge is more strident, the first reason may be that the epidemic is worse.

That there are epidemics both of cholera and of bubonic plague is very probable. Large numbers of Chinese "volunteers" have been brought to Korea from Southern China, where

cholera is always rampant. Bubonic plague, carried in the skins of animals trapped in the winter, is a recurrent feature of the Manchurian spring. And it is perhaps significant that the Chinese have suggested that the infection has been spread particularly on "lines of communications". That is characteristic of a rapidly infectious disease like bubonic plague. It suggests that there has been a "normal" outbreak of a familiar type, with which the Communist authorities have been unable to cope.

At first the propaganda itself seemed to indicate that there had been actual outbreaks of insect-borne diseases. Then the tune was suddenly changed. It may be that the propaganda had had an undesigned boomerang effect: that it was causing panic, or near panic, among the civilian population; perhaps even among the troops.

Whatever the reason, the existence of any epidemic was sharply denied. "No-one," said Peking Radio, "has ever said that there is an epidemic. What has been said is that the Americans were trying to create one."

Then, unfortunately from their own point of view, Communist spokesmen began to explain

why there not only had been no epidemic, but could not have been an epidemic.

At this time of the year, they explained, it would be impossible for an epidemic to spread. The weather is still too cold. The lice and the mice and the rest of the potential germ carriers are still dormant. There can be no danger for several weeks.

That unguarded argument has cut the ground from under their own feet. For is it credible or conceivable that, in climatic conditions in February or early March make it impossible to start an insect-borne epidemic, the Americans would waste their time dropping lice and mice from aeroplanes, knowing perfectly well that the whole operation would be ineffective and a complete waste of time.

So here is the dilemma in which the Communist propagandists have landed themselves. Either there is no epidemic, and could not be one at this period of the year, in which case it is unbelievable by official Soviet newspapers.

Cairo Under The Curfew: Husbands Go Home Earlier

By MARGARET GILRUTH

CAIRO. In Cairo, it is clear once again, Britons can take almost anything—and here we are, almost reconciled to the curfew.

We still, of course, ask one another, "What happens next?"

On January 26, we saw mob rule. That day, 22 bars, 73 restaurants, cabarets and cafes, 40 cinemas, 300 shops, 10 clubs, 10 gunsmiths, 8 motor show rooms, 30 commercial concerns, 117 flats and offices were destroyed and looted, and the new government was momentarily too preoccupied securing security and stability for a tottering nation to worry about the alleged misdeeds of the British.

It is wishful thinking however, to assume that fresh governments in Egypt mean they are ready to bypass the cherished national aims, embracing evacuation and unity of the Nile Valley under the crown of King of Egypt and the Sudan.

That Egypt's new Premier, Nasser, is ready to negotiate for the nation's aims in a dignified civilised fashion is apparent to all. This is in character with this man of outstanding ability, who as a lawyer recently obtained the highest fees known in the country.

So, while there is not much to be had now in Cairo, at least we can assure ourselves those at the helm are stepping

forward, though delicately and with great respect for ultra-sensitive national susceptibilities. Their predecessors, the Wafd, were bringing Egypt into worldwide disrepute, and it was heading internally for something catastrophic.

Meanwhile many well-to-do foreigners rush off to Alexandria for the week-end "just to go to the cinema," "to dine out without hurrying back because of the curfew." But British residents stay put, readjusting themselves to life under martial law restrictions—with just the customary grizzle!

The fact their rich friends can't support security measures imposed by the Government in their own interests makes the British smile with tolerance.

There are no night clubs left unharmed by fire and looting. So far, there are only two big hotels doing business as usual. They are the Semiramis on the Nile, embodying the Savoy and the Ritz for Cairo, and the Metropolitan, with a bar as homely as those in good old English pubs.

They are crowded out, the first with the pashas and child women, the second with friendly unpretentious businessmen.

In point of fact, now they and we are used to the curfew, methods are not so drastic. But it is true a British couple was picked up by a patrol fifteen minutes after the curfew was

this fact well, would waste time and energy in vain. There have been epidemics. In which case any scientist or medical man familiar with the conditions of Korea and North China knows that there is no need to look for imaginary American aeroplanes to account for an unhappily only too familiar phenomenon.

NO EVIDENCE

COME back to my first point. What the Communists have been doing in the past few weeks has been to make, in a hectic, world-wide propaganda campaign, an appalling charge against the United States and the United Nations. They have brought no evidence, other than repeated allegations, to substantiate those charges. They have refused to allow any outside examination or investigation, or even to check, those allegations. And they have themselves made statements which make it impossible for any objective person to believe them.

Whether or not allegations were, or were not, inspired in the first place, by an actual outbreak of cholera and plague, is, in a way, irrelevant. Such an outbreak has been either exploited or invented in order to provide ammunition for a propaganda campaign of which the purpose is to arouse horror, and to excite hatred for all the "Western" world and for the Americans in particular, as "cannibals, monsters and beasts of prey". The phrase is one used by official Soviet newspapers.

clamped down over the city. They were two hours in a police station before they managed to find an influential Egyptian ready to vouch for them, to plead for them, so that they were finally released "on bail" until the next morning, when they had to begin explanations to the police all over again.

Inevitably, there is a crop of curfew stories, some funny, some sad.

There is the woman who signed herself "Femina" when she wrote to the Egyptian Gazette, saying: "Not the least of the benefits derived from the curfew is that which secures the early arrival home of husbands who hitherto spent overmuch time at night away from their wives in their club or cafe. It would be interesting to note if other wives will regret the passing of the curfew, which brings such husbandly companionship."

In the worldly Royal Automobile Club those who gamble never, normally, think of leaving until at the very least 2 a.m. Addicts often hang around until 4 or even 5 a.m. Now all is changed. The club doors shut an hour before curfew time so that servants can reach home in safety. According to club members, this has meant that some couples (who seldom saw much of each other) are now seeking divorces, while others have found, much to their surprise, they have something in common after years of walking along different paths.

G. WARD PRICE in ARGENTINA

Rich Country Getting Poor

NYE ACHIEVES!
JENNY INSPIRES! NYE
REALISES!
BE GRATEFUL FOR JENNY
BEVAN'S SOCIAL AID AND
JUSTICE!

SHOULD the present Parliamentary Opposition, under new leadership, come to power in Britain, whitewash inscriptions of the above type might soon, as in the Argentine, fill every architectural blank space throughout the country—that is, if Mr Aneurin Bevan were to employ the same intensive personal propaganda as is used by President Peron.

Though not so crude as the motto: "The Duce is always right!" with which Mussolini stencilled the whole of Italy, it might have been expected that this kind of government publicity would lose in efficiency as a result of the collapse of the European dictatorships. Yet, although Peron has just been re-elected for a further six years of office, the slogan-campaign is being maintained throughout the Argentine.

Though he relies on reiteration to retain the support of the Argentine proletariat, President Peron rejects the suggestion that he is a dictator. He considers himself—and his wife, until her recent illness, was equally active an administrator—to be leaders of a Social Welfare State.

Most Intriguing

IN the matter of amenities for the young, and aid for the old provided out of Government funds, the Argentine can display more lavishly equipped exhibits than any country, with the possible exception of Germany under the Nazis.

Huge bathing pools temper the heat of the South American summer; football clubs receive breath-taking subsidies from the State; roller-skating rinks, dance-halls, tennis-courts, and running tracks are available to all young people at nominal rates of subscription.

Most intriguing of all is a child-size village on the outskirts of the capital. It has cottages, shops, a church, a bank, and a town hall, reproduced on a near-Lilliputian scale, and children up to the age of seven are brought there by their teachers to play at being grown-ups with equipment adapted to their stature.

Such advantages are mainly limited to Buenos Aires, where the General Confederation of Labour, which is Peron's praetorian guard, is strongest. The basis of Government policy is that nothing is too good for the younger generation. The land, buildings and equipment required to assure the solidarity of its support of the regime are often obtained by the simple process of requisitioning them from the original club members. F. I. Luterio Peters are dispossessed for the benefit of proletarian Pauls.

"What I like about Peron is that he gets things done," is the comment I heard from a leading British resident. "Earlier pre-

sidents did nothing but line their pockets. Of course," he added, "there has been no change in that respect from the highest to the lowest, but at least there is something to show for it."

State control of the business of marketing provides an unknown but substantial profit for the Government, which buys from the producer at a certain price and passes the goods on at a higher figure. There is a brisk traffic in import licences that recall the sale of "monopolies" in England under the Stuarts.

Not Equalled

A COUNTRY rich in natural resources can prosper despite financial corruption but, to an observer accustomed to less lavish accountancy, the Argentine, with its national deficit of over 100 per cent, seems to be trying to make two and two add up to five.

The multiplicity and costliness of its Government buildings have not been equalled in any country since the German Führer launched his ambitious architectural schemes. Despite authority is brought to bear on the widening of such far-reaching thoroughfares as the Avenue of the Ninth of July which, with a breadth of over 100 yards, has no equal in the world.

This has been achieved at the cost of ruthlessly tearing down the entire frontage of one side, regardless of the inconvenience and financial damage imposed upon the victims of the measure. Yet, at the same time, much relief has been brought to the intense traffic problem of Buenos Aires by the construction of three huge underground garages, reached by broad ramps of masonry. One of them, through which I was driven, is said to hold 3,500 cars, which pay about £1 a month for its use. It was a vast, pillared catacomb, stretching as far as one could see.

These public works, combined with the elegant standards of dress maintained by the people who throng the narrow streets of down-town Buenos Aires, create in the visiting foreigner's mind an impression of prosperity.

Self-confident

HOW long this will endure depends mainly on the relief of the Argentine from the drought that for nearly three years has reduced the profits of the livestock industry which, in normal times, provides one-half of the country's exports, thus limiting the capacity to pay for manufactured goods, of which three-quarters of the national consumption is imported from abroad.

The Argentine character is fiercely self-confident. A typical illustration is the fact that almost universally adopted mechanical devices—traffic-lights and the totolator—have been tried in Buenos Aires and rejected because no one would obey the rules.

Economic laws, however, are less easy to defy. The problem that confronts the Argentine today was bluntly stated by Peron in a national broadcast on March 5, in which, dealing with the financial situation of the country, he said: "He who spends more than he earns is a fool."

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"HUNAN"	Tientsin	10 a.m. 27th Apr.	
"HANYANG"	Singapore, Penang & Belawan	5 p.m. 28th Apr.	
"FOOCHOW"	Cheribon, Semarang, Sourabaya	10 a.m. 29th Apr.	
"SINKIANG"	Yokohama, Osaka & Kobe	10 a.m. 1st May	
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	5 p.m. 3rd May	
Sails from Custodian Wharf			
ARRIVALS FROM			
"SHANSHI"	Kobe	21st Apr.	
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	7 a.m. 22nd Apr.	
"HUNAN"	Tientsin	24th Apr.	
"FOOCHOW"	Osaka	27th Apr.	
"SINKIANG"	Bangkok	28th Apr.	
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"CHANGTE"	Sydney & Melbourne	13th May	
ARRIVALS FROM			
"CHANGTE"	Australia, Tokoro & Manila	20th Apr.	
"TAIYUAN"	Australia & Manila	27th Apr.	
"CHANGTE"	Japan	10th May	

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"AUTOMEDON"	Genoa, Rotterdam & Hamburg	22nd May
"CALCHAS"	Dublin & Liverpool	26th May

Sails	Sails	Arrives
S. "AGAPENOR"	Liverpool	Hong Kong 24th Apr.
G. "CALCHAS"	do	1st May
S. "AUTOMEDON"	do	14th May
G. "PYRRHUS"	12th Apr.	16th Apr.
S. "ATREUS"	18th Apr.	23rd May
G. "BELLEROPHON"	25th Apr.	31st May
S. "CYCLOPS"	5th May	10th June
G. "PELEUS"	12th May	17th June
S. "ANTIOCHUS"	19th May	23rd June

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"BENVORLICH"	U.K. via Singapore	6th June
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"BENCLEUCHI"	Avonmouth, Liverpool, Glasgow & Antwerp.	21st Apr.
"BENMACDHUI"	Kure, Yokohama & Kobe.	22nd Apr.
"BENLEDI"	Direct to Singapore, thence Liverpool, Dublin & Hamburg.	10th May
"BENDORAN"	London, Rotterdam & Hull.	21st May
"BENMACDHUI"	Direct to Singapore, thence Havre, London & Antwerp.	26th May
"BENVORLICH"	Kure, Yokohama & Kobe.	8th June
"BENWYVIS"	Liverpool, Dublin, Glasgow & Antwerp.	10th June

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Damage cargo on this vessel will be surveyed at Holt's Wharf between 10 a.m. and noon on April 21 and 22, 1952, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents
Hongkong, April 10, 1952.

NOTICE

SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE HONG KONG

On Sunday, 20th April, 1952 there will be a special service at St. John's Cathedral, by kind permission of the Dean, when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. W. J. Haig-Brown, the Chaplain of the Society.

It is also proposed to hold a short service at the Societies' "Garden of Remembrance" Stanley at 4 p.m. on the same day.

The Vice-President and members of the Committee hope that as many members as possible will attend both services; those requiring transport to Stanley should contact the Secretaries, Tel. No. 27795.

On Wednesday, 23rd April 1952, St. George's Day, in the absence of the President, the Vice-President supported by the Committee, will lay a wreath at the Cenotaph at 9 a.m. All members are invited to join in this brief ceremony of remembrance.

PEAT, MARWICK, MITCHELL & CO.
Secretaries.

Telephone House, Hong Kong.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given as from 15th April, 1952, Mr. Y. S. Cheng has resigned from his post as Sales Manager of Dah Chung Industrial Co., Ltd. and has assumed the management of Chung Hwa Trading Co. and Solar Lamp Bulb Works at 38 Des Voeux Road, Central, second floor, Telephone No. 34278.

CHUNG HWA TRADING CO.
Y. S. CHENG, Manager.

NOTICE

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED

Notice To Shareholders

Notice is hereby given that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the Society will be held at the Head Office of the Society, Union Building, Hongkong, on Thursday, 22nd May 1952 at 11.30 a.m. to receive the Directors' Report and the Statement of Accounts, to declare a dividend and to transact the ordinary business of the Society.

The SHARE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Society will be CLOSED from 3rd May to 22nd May, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
L. B. STONE,
General Manager.

Hongkong, 18th April, 1952.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

MAERSK LINE

m/v "LEXA MAERSK"
having arrived from New York and Ports of call, Consignees of Cargo are being landed and placed at their risk and expense into the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Company's godowns at Kowloon, where delivery may be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

Optional cargo will not be landed here, unless notice has been given 48 hours prior to vessel's arrival, but carried on from port to port to the final port of call to which the option extends.

No claims will be admitted after the goods, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 3rd April, 1952, will be subject to rent. All broken, damaged, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined on 2nd April, 1952, at 10 a.m. by our Surveyors Messrs. Goddard Douglas.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged-dullable goods are examined.

All claims must reach us before the 15th May, 1952, or they will not be recognised.

No Insurance will be effected.

JENSEN & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 16th April, 1952.

First Recruits For New Army Experiment

Tuxford, Notts., Apr. 17.

Forty boys from various parts of Britain have arrived at Tuxford camp to become first members of an infantry regimental boys' battalion.

Its strength is eventually expected to be about 450, and its aim is to produce soldiers who will later become Warrant Officers and N.C.O.'s in infantry regiments.

Formation of this battalion as a unit of the regular army was announced by the War Office last month.

Though many of its recruits may be keen youngsters of the Army Cadet Force, the battalion is distinct from cadet units, which are part of the armed forces.

The boys, whose ages are from 15 to 17½, will receive military training and educational courses designed to fit them for leadership. Instructors have come from Korea, the Far East, the Middle East, Trieste and the B.A.O.R.

The Commanding Officer, Major Sir Christopher Nixon, was company commander in the Royal Ulster Rifles when the regiment fought alongside the Gloucesters in Korea.—Reuter.

Ships Missing Off Greenland

Washington, Apr. 17.

The American Coastguard said today it was studying a Norwegian request for icebreakers if they were required to search for five seal-catching ships which disappeared with 77 men in Greenland waters last week.

The State Department had received the request from the Norwegian Foreign Ministry and asked the Coastguard to find out if icebreakers were available.—Reuter.

Swiss-Czech Trade Talks

Berne, Apr. 17.

Trade talks between Swiss and Czechoslovak Government delegations opened here today. The delegates will review the existing trade situation between the two countries and lay down conditions for future commercial exchanges.—Reuter.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

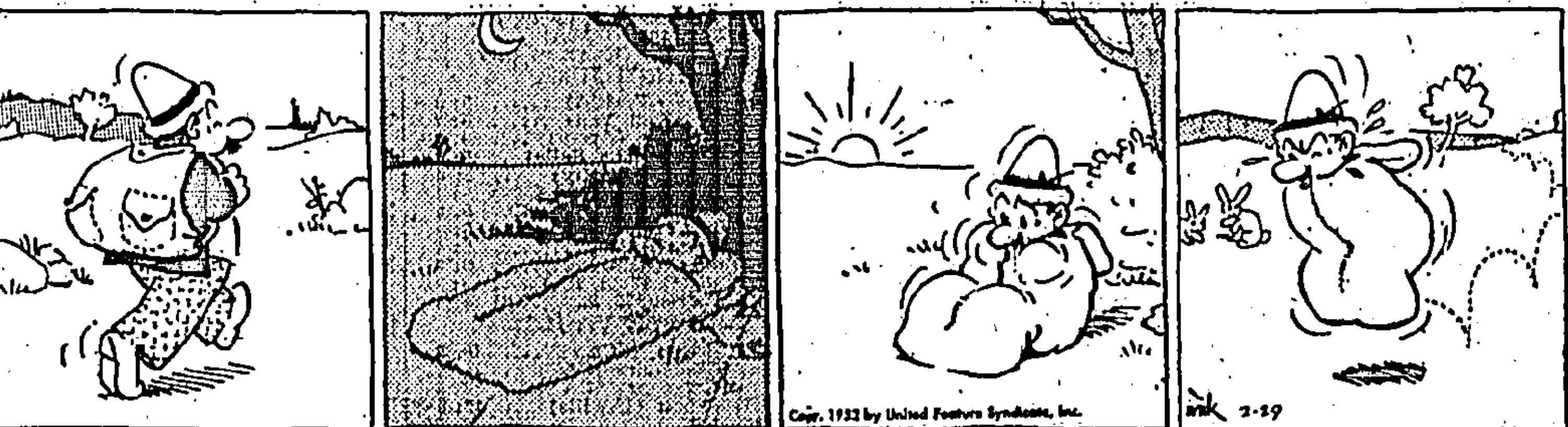
By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



FERD'NAND

Caught Napping

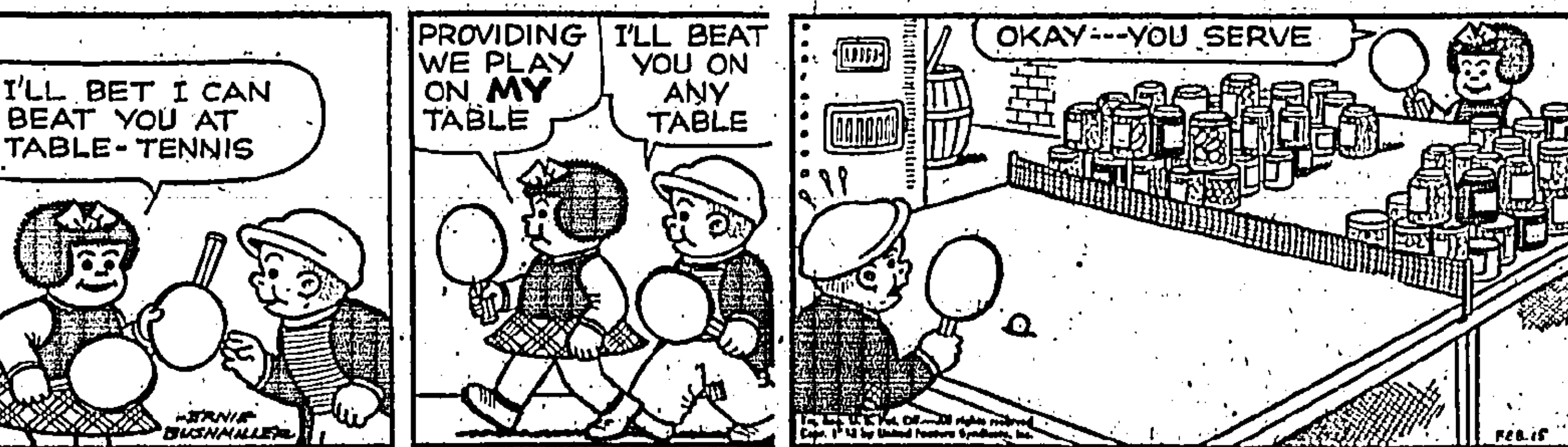
By Milk



NANCY

Jarring Him

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



P&O B.I.E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Arrives Hongkong
"CARTHAGE"	2nd April	4th May
"CHUSAN"	9th April	5th May
"CORFU"	1st May	2nd June
Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore.		
Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CHUSAN"	8th May	2nd June
"CARTHAGE"	9th May	9th June
"CORFU"	6th June	8th July
Accepting cargo for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden & London.		

FREIGHT SERVICE

Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	For
"SURAT"	4th May	London & Continent
Accepting cargo for		
Outwards	Arrives Hongkong	From
"SINGAPORE"	2nd May	U.K. & Continent
Accepting cargo for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, Cebu, Aden, Genoa, Marseilles, London, Hamburg, Antwerp & Rotterdam, with liberty to call at Bombay if inducement offers.		
Tanks available for carriage of oil in Bulk. Space for refrigerated cargo. Limited passenger accommodation.		

BRITISH-INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

"SANTHIA"	In Port sails 10th April	from Japan for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta
"SANGOLA"	due 10th April	from Calcutta, Hongkong, Penang & Singapore
"SANGOLA"	sails 10th April	for Japan from Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta
"SANGOLA"	sails 12th May	for Japan from Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta

P. & O. B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"PEMBA"	due 1st May	from Japan for Singapore, Madras, Colombo, Bombay & Karachi
"ORDIA"	due 11th May	from Persian Gulf for Japan

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"EASTERN"	due 21st April	from Sydney & Brisbane
"NANKIN"	sails 23rd April	for Japan from Japan
"NANKIN"	due 4th May	for Port Moresby, Sydney, Brisbane, Wellington & Auckland

All vessels have liberty to call at any port, on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

For full particulars apply to
MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.
OF HONG KONG LTD.
Telephone Nos. 27721-4

LONDON TIN MARKET

London, Apr. 17.
Prices of tin were easier this morning. Turnover was 110 tons, including 30 tons for cash. Prices closed today at the end of the official morning session as follows:
Spot tin, buyer 660
Spot tin, seller 660½
Business done at 660½
Three-months tin, buyer 662
Three-months tin, seller 663½
Business done at 663½
Settlement 663½
—United Press.

Singapore Rubber Futures

Singapore, Apr. 17.
Prices for rubber futures closed today as follows:
No. 1 rubber, per lb. 108½-109½
May 108½-109½
June 108½-109½
July 108½-109½
No. 2 rubber, May 107½-108½
Business done at 108½
No. 4 rubber, May 108½-109½
Spot rubber, unbleached 110-110½
Blanket crepe 127-128
No. 1 pale crepe 127-128
—United Press.

London Rubber Futures

London, Apr. 17.
Prices of rubber futures closed today as follows:
Number 1 rubber, in pence per lb. 32½-33½
May 32½-33½
June 32½-33½
July 32½-33½
October/December 32½-33½
January/March 32½-33½
—United Press.

Vegetable Oils

New York, Apr. 17.
Prices in the seeds and oils market here closed today unchanged with the following exceptions:
Peanut oil, per lb. F.O.B. New York, 12½ cents.
Linsed oil, in tank cars, New York, per lb. 10.7-10.8 cents.
Flax seed, per bushel, F.O.B. Minneapolis, \$3.71½.—United Press.

Fiat cars
Model 500 C

REPUBLIC MOTORS LTD.
360 Hounnuty Rd. Tel. 3-4575

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES



"LAKE MICHIGAN" May 4 May 5 Japan
"BIR HAKEEM" June 12 June 2 Japan

"DEAUVAIS" May 10 May 20 N. Africa & Europe
"FELIX ROUSSEL" May 23 May 24 Marseilles via Manila
"LAKE MICHIGAN" June 3 June 5 N. Africa & Europe

† freight for Saigon, Alexandria, Tunis, Genoa, Marseilles, Algiers, Oran, Tangier, Casablanca, Havre, Dunkirk, Antwerp, Rotterdam & all Mediterranean ports via Manila.

Madagascar by Transshipment in Saigon or Djibouti
Subject To Change Without Notice.

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
P.O. Box 53, Hongkong
Queen's Building (gr. floor) Tel. 26651 (3 lines).

EVERETT LINES

EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast cargo and passenger service refrigeration space available for Korea, Japan, China, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya and East Coast Indian Ports.

"LENEVERETT"

Arrives April 24 from Manila.
Sails April 25 for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon and Calcutta.

"REBEVERETT"

Arrives May 9 from Singapore.
Sails May 10 for Japan.

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast cargo and refrigeration spaces available for Korea, Japan, China, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Ceylon, West Coast Indian and Persian Gulf Ports.

FIRST CLASS PASSENGER ACCOMMODATION
M.S. "STAR ALCYONE"

Loading April 24
Sailing April 25 for Singapore, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi & Persian Gulf Ports.

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORPORATION S/A

Queen's Building, Telephone 31206.
Chinese Department: Telephone 28293.

OFFICES AT
TOKYO—YOKOHAMA—KOBE—OSAKA
SEOUL—PUSAN



FAST SERVICE TO UNITED KINGDOM
AND CONTINENT

BY

S.S. "BENCRUACHAN"

Loading at Buoy A-3 on 19th and 20th April

DIRECT FOR SINGAPORE

THENCE

HAVRE, LONDON AND HAMBURG.

W.R. LOXLEY & CO., (CHINA) LTD.

York Building. Tel. 34105 & 38710.

SOAPY WATER

IS GOOD FOR
PLANTS:

USE BATH SURPLUS
IN THE

GARDEN.

WATER IS PRECIOUS

PRESS
PHOTOGRAPHS

Copies of photographs taken by the South China Morning Post, South China Sunday Post-Herald, and China Mail Staff Photographers are on view in the Morning Post Building.

ORDERS BOOKED

EGYPTIANS FACE GRAVE
ECONOMIC CRISISCabinet Working On New Policy
"To Save Cotton Market"

Cairo, Apr. 17.

The Egyptian Government is working on a new cotton export policy to "save the cotton market and the nation's economy from serious disruption," Finance Minister Zaky Abdel Mutaal Bey announced here tonight.

Mutaal Bey disclosed this when announcing a big new export drive coupled with an austerity drive at home.

Declaring he would shortly announce the new cotton export policy, he said the Government was considering trade arrangements with European and American countries for the barter of Egyptian cotton against wheat, sugar, edible oils and other basic commodities badly needed in this country.

HONGKONG
SHARE
MARKET

(From Our Correspondent)

Conditions were easier on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning, with few transactions. The total up to noon was valued at \$110,614.50. Noon quotations were:

SHARPS BUYERS SELLERS SALES
HSK Bank 140 150 5 1305
HSK 140 150 5 1305
HSK 140 150 5 1305

SHIPPING
A.S. Nippon 1.65 1.70 500 1.65
D.K. 1.70 1.75 500 1.70
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